Moran to Attend 60th Anniversary of D-Day Invasion

Speaker Dennis Hastert Invites Moran to Ceremonies Commemorating Pivotal World War II Battle

Washington, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that he will visit Normandy this week to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion during World War II. Moran will be attending the celebration at the invitation of the Speaker of U.S. House of Representatives, Dennis Hastert.

On June 6, 1944, under the leadership of the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, more than 150,000 American, British and Canadian troops stormed the northern beaches of France to stop the advancement of the German Army. The American forces landed on Omaha and Utah beaches. The day of the invasion, known as D-Day, marked the beginning of Operation Overlord and the battle for Europe, which eventually forced the unconditional surrender of Germany on May 8, 1945.

"Today it is difficult to stand on Omaha Beach and imagine what it was like sixty years ago," said Dan Holt, executive director of the Eisenhower Library and Museum in Abilene. "It is certainly appropriate that Congressman Moran will be in Normandy to represent not only the United States on the 60th anniversary of D-Day, but also his Congressional District, home of the Supreme Allied Commander, Dwight D. Eisenhower."

"As the son of a World War II veteran, I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to join with American veterans in celebration of this historic event," Moran said. "Kansas is home to about 40,000 World War II veterans, and I am honored to visit Normandy to pay tribute to them and to recognize the contribution they made for me, my family and for all Americans."

As part of the activities while in Normandy, Moran will present a gift on behalf of Kansas and the Eisenhower Center to the American Cemetery in Normandy, where 9,386 American soldiers are buried.   Moran will present a statue of General Eisenhower to the American Battle Monuments Commission, which operates the cemetery.

###